



Committee Members

Carl Weimer, Chair Leo Bowman, Vice Chair
Duane Henderson Grant Jensen George Hills
Pete Kmet Dave Barnes Katie Hansen
Richard Kuprewicz Shirley Olson
Bill Rickard Jean Buckner Bob Bandarra



Washington State Citizens Committee on Pipeline Safety

Meeting Minutes

Clark Regional Wastewater District, Vancouver, WA
May 30 and 31, 2007

Present members:

Carl Weimer, Chair
Leo Bowman, Vice Chair
Pete Kmet
Katie Hansen
Rick Kuprewicz
Bill Rickard
Bob Bandarra
Duane Henderson
George Hills
Grant Jensen

Absent members:

Jean Buckner
Shirley Olson

Public attendees:

Alan Rathbun, Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC), Pipeline Safety Director
Tim Sweeney, Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC)
Ilyne Lawson, Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC)
Dan Kirschner, Northwest Gas Association (NWGA)
Earl Tower, BP Olympic Pipeline Company
Terry Walverton, TransCanada GTN System
Rob Lattimer, TransCanada GTN System
Paul Jewell, Tidewater
Vonda Kay Brock, Landowners and Citizens for a Safe Community (LCSC)
Gayle Kiser, Landowners and Citizens for a Safe Community (LCSC)
Sandra Davis, Landowners and Citizens for a Safe Community (LCSC)
Marjie Castle, Landowners and Citizens for a Safe Community (LCSC)
Gary Lee, Department of Ecology
Bruce Overbay, LL Lindberg
Jean Cameron, Pacific Sales BC Oil Spill Task Force
Earl Tower, Olympic Pipeline
Dave Knoelke, BP Olympic Pipeline
Ruth Mabrey, Williams Northwest Pipeline

Agenda Items:

1. Welcome and Adoption of January 4, 2007 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was brought to order and Carl Weimer, Chair, welcomed all attendees. In a unanimous vote, the committee adopted the January 4, 2007 meeting minutes as presented.

2. Presentation by TransCanada GTN – Public Awareness

Robert Lattimer and Terry Walverton, TransCanada GTN System, gave a presentation on TransCanada GTN System.

Robert Lattimer briefly discussed the energy company's background and composition before illustrating the organization's public awareness and education (RP 1162) program. TransCanada GTN System has a 41 mile outreach corridor and employs the following methods in its RP 1162 program:

1. Sending annual mailings
 - a. to excavators
 - b. landowners / tenants
 - c. emergency officials
2. Communicating its pipeline safety message to 700 individuals in 65 different organizations through personal meetings or formal presentations
3. 811 Stakeholder workshop
4. Active and ongoing involvement in local Washington Utility Coordinating Councils
5. Re-signing in growth areas

During Robert Lattimer's description of TransCanada GTN System's RP 1162 program Terry Walverton explained how TransCanada GTN System collaborates with industry sponsors to send a message on behalf of many operators. Robert Lattimer informed the committee that he was going to China on sabbatical and Terry Walverton would provide the RP 1162 presentations for TransCanada GTN System going forward.

3. Outcome of 2007 Legislative Session

Tim Sweeney, UTC Policy & Outreach Coordinator, provided the committee with an update on the outcome of the 2007 Legislative session. Tim Sweeney clarified the major changes in UTC's agency request legislation (Substitute Senate Bill 5225). The change in statute will go into effect on July 22, 2007 and it will combine all pipeline safety authority under one chapter of law.

Members discussed the status of pipeline related bills that were mentioned in previous meetings and determined that none of them passed. Earl Tower, Olympic Pipeline Company, explained that HB 2206 was being driven by Representative Curtis and oil marketers having the opinion that there is a need for more service in the southwestern section of the state. The bill studies pipeline utility corridor capacity in southwest

Washington and the possibility of running a new pipeline parallel to the Olympic Pipeline.

Leo Bowman commented that he was interested in understanding how the supply and demand of energy in growing areas is managed. Dan Kirschner, Northwest Gas Association, offered to provide a presentation on the demand and supply forecast of natural gas at the committee's convenience.

4. **UTC Update**

Alan Rathbun, UTC Pipeline Safety Director, provided the committee with an update on events that impacted the UTC's Pipeline Safety Division between March and May 2007.

Small gas pipeline study: Consultant finds 21 areas of concern

This year (2007), the Washington UTC pipeline safety program will begin an inventory of certain types of pipeline systems as part of its ongoing small gas pipeline system study. The goal of this study has been to gain a better understanding of the risks posed by small gas pipeline systems and to identify safety measures that can be taken to mitigate those risks. The consultant hired to complete a risk assessment of small gas pipeline systems has issued his findings and recommendations. The next phase of the study is to field test the consultant's recommendations. Pipeline safety inspectors will begin field inspections in spring of this year.

Second Settlement Agreement in Bellevue House Explosion Incident

The commission will hold a hearing to explore the terms and conditions of a settlement agreement between Puget Sound Energy, the City of Bellevue and the UTC pipeline safety staff in Olympia on June 5

The settlement agreement presents PSE's proposed plan to address the results of the company's assessment of older (pre-1972) steel gas services. The commission ordered the assessment following a fatal house explosion in Bellevue in 2004.

PSE has agreed to replace approximately 9,000 natural gas service lines in Western Washington by the end of 2010, and to continually assess older service lines to identify any potentially vulnerable gas lines before they become a safety risk. Some of the natural gas service lines not slated for replacement will be checked for leaks on a more frequent basis than currently required by state safety regulations. In addition, the company has agreed to test for potential corrosive pipe conditions on at least 1,000 randomly-selected service lines from its least vulnerable pre-1972 steel service lines.

Complaint filed against PSE alleging inaccurate records

Pipeline safety staff filed a complaint against Puget Sound Energy (PSE) for failing to keep accurate and complete documentation of suspected gas leaks.

After reviewing PSE's natural-gas pipeline inspection records over a four-year period, UTC pipeline safety staff allege PSE's contractor, Pilchuck Contractors, Inc., violated recordkeeping rules by intentionally filling out leak-inspection reports with incorrect information or changing those reports to reflect compliance. The UTC staff identified 209 probable violations during an audit of the company's pipeline safety records from January 2002 through December 2005.

The commission is not bound by recommendations made by staff and will set a schedule for hearing this complaint in the near future.

The pipeline-safety program depends in large part on the accuracy and reliability of pipeline-safety records prepared by the regulated companies. State regulations require PSE to maintain records containing the specific dates and times a suspected leak was investigated and the name of the person who performed the inspection.

Appellate court to hear GIS public disclosure case in June

Division II of Washington's appeals court will hear an appeal by pipeline companies of Judge Hicks ruling. In his written order, Judge Hicks stated: "Having considered the seven bases by which plaintiffs claim these requested records exempt, this court finds that only under a construction calling for a narrow right to disclosure, while broadly construing any exemption, could such an argument prevail. The court denies the injunction, and orders the UTC to follow through with the initial movement to disclose the records."

On March 19, the group of pipeline companies asked the Court of Appeals, Division II, to block the release of the records pending a review of the case. On March 30, the appeals court issued a continuation of the temporary restraining order and set a schedule for filing of briefs. Oral argument on the appeal will be heard during the last week of June.

Status of Member Appointment

Grant Jensen, Duane Henderson, Shirley Olson, and Pete Kmet have been re-appointed to serve on the committee for another term. Terms for Leo Bowman and Katie Hanson expire July 31, 2007. Leo Bowman has applied for reappointment while Katie Hansen has not yet decided whether she will apply for reappointment or not. Industry member, David Barnes, has submitted his resignation due to his relocation to the Chicago area. A certificate of appreciation signed by the Governor and the Chair will be sent to David Barnes for the time that he served on the committee. Olympic Pipeline Company has nominated David Knoelke, regulatory compliance coordinator, to serve on the committee. The governor's office has developed a new online application form for board/committee appointment that is available on the CCOPS website.

5. Damage Prevention Overview 2007 Workplan and Meeting Schedule

Tim Sweeney, UTC Policy & Outreach Coordinator provided a Damage Prevention presentation. Tim Sweeney discussed damage prevention relates to damages to

underground utilities caused by excavation. The objective of a damage prevention program is to reduce the breakdowns in the damage prevention process which should ultimately decrease the number of incidents.

Tim Sweeney provided a detailed account of the roles currently played by public entities, RCW 19.122, and government offices in the damage prevention process. Nine key elements were identified as integral parts of an effective damage prevention program. The nine key elements were compared to the damage prevention components currently and the areas requiring improvement were identified. Committee members were advised of steps the UTC has recently taken towards establishing a damage prevention program in Washington State.

The UTC's actions include:

- Fostered Northwest Common Ground Alliance ó No longer meeting regularly.
- Encouraging utilities (mainly water companies) to join the UULC.
- Filed enforcement actions against three excavation companies.
- Proposed incorporating RCW 19.122 in our pipeline safety rules.
- Monitoring 811 implementation

UTC staff asked the committee to make recommendations on how to move forward with the damage prevention program. The committee deferred this discussion to its meeting on Thursday, May 31.

6. Public Comment

Marjie Castle, Vonda Kay Brock, Gayle Kiser, and Sandra Davis, Landowners and Citizens for a Safe Community (LCSC), voiced concerns over the proposal to develop multiple Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) pipelines. The pipeline would run along the Columbia River from Bradwood Landing, Oregon through to areas in Cowlitz County, Washington. The terminal will have the capability to convert LNG and convert it to natural gas for distribution. Marjie Castle explained public concerns related to the negative impacts the project would have on the local economy, environment, and property. There are also concerns about the geological stability of the area. In addition, the recent judicial ruling has prevented residents from obtaining information about the proposed location of the pipeline.

The LCSC would like the committee to write a letter recommending that the Governor vote against the LNG project. The committee determined that it would require overviews of the pipeline siting process and the evaluation of safety related siting issues before it could decide whether or not it would take any action on behalf of the LCSC.

Jean Cameron, Executive Coordinator, Oil Spill Task Force, provided background information on her organization. After the Exxon Valdez oil spill in 1988, sister agencies of the Department Ecology are joined in a collaborative effort to protect the pacific coast from oil spills. The Oil Spill Task Force is comprised of employees from agencies in Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia. Additional information about the Oil Spill Task Force can be found at <http://oilspilltaskforce.org>.

Tour of the One Call Center in Oregon

The committee adjourned the public meeting at 12:00 pm to tour the Oregon Utility Notification Center for the rest of the afternoon.

Meeting Continuation: May 31, 2007:

Present members:

Carl Weimer, Chair
Leo Bowman, Vice Chair
Pete Kmet
Katie Hansen
Rick Kuprewicz
Bill Rickard
Bob Bandarra
George Hills
Grant Jensen

Absent members:

Jean Buckner
Shirley Olson
Duane Henderson

Public attendees:

Alan Rathbun, Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC)
Tim Sweeney, Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC)
Ilyne Lawson, Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC)
David Knoelke, BP Olympic Pipeline

Agenda Items:

1. Review of One Call Tour

The committee discussed the Oregon Utility Notification Center tour and reviewed the information provided in the damage prevention presentation. Frank Planton, General Manager of the Oregon Utility Notification Center, provided the committee with a thorough explanation of the one call process; in turn, improving committee members' understanding of the damage prevention process.

Grant Jensen explained the one call system used by Williams Pipelines in order to provide the committee a perspective of one call process from and operators' point of view. Tim Sweeney elaborated on the nine elements of an effective damage prevention program that were previously introduced and identified areas that require supplementary development.

1. Communication from start to finish.
2. Stakeholder investment and awareness
3. Locating service performance/quality assurance
4. Collaborative employee training programs

5. Collaborative public education
6. State facilitates dispute resolution
7. Enforcement of state dig law
8. Keep current with technology
9. Process for continuous improvement

The committee suggested adding equipment rental companies as a significant component of damage prevention. Members suggested exploring approaches that would ensure that equipment renters have proper training and valid locate requests prior to being allowed to rent digging equipment.

The committee unanimously agreed to take an active role in the damage prevention program and requested to be updated on staff's progress. Committee members also requested to be informed of UTC staff's damage prevention workplan and asked to be provided with a list of members of the Utility Coordinating Council (UCC).

UTC staff agreed to keep the committee informed of upcoming Damage Prevention events. Staff also agreed to provide the committee with the names of UCC members.

2. Amendment to By-Laws

Rick Kuprewicz made a motion, seconded by Katie Hansen, to accept the language amendments in the "Decision Making" and "Leadership Terms" sections. The committee voted unanimously to accept amendments to the Bylaws.

Committee members will consider adding another bullet to section 9 specifying that any entity formally presenting a topic at committee meetings will be asked to provide both electronic and hardcopy versions of the presentation. Pete Kmet will draft language for this bullet and send it to staff for dissemination among committee members.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE (06/14/2007):

Materials provided to the committee and presentations made to the committee shall be included in the committee records. To the extent practical, these materials and presentations will be posted on the committee website, along with the meeting minutes. Presenters will be notified in advance of the meetings that presentation material will be made part of the meeting public record.

3. Election of Officers for 2007/2008

Katie Hansen made a motion, seconded by Rick Kuprewicz, to re-elect Carl Weimer as Chair and Leo Bowman as Vice Chair. Carl Weimer and Leo Bowman were both unanimously re-elected to serve as Chair and Vice Chair for the next officer term.

4. **Participation in the Western Region NAPSRS meeting**

Alan Rathbun, UTC Pipeline Safety Director, provided the committee with a brief overview of the 2007 Western Region National Administration of Pipeline Safety Representatives (NAPSRS) Conference scheduled next month. Carl Weimer will be attending the conference as a representative of the Citizens Committee on Pipeline Safety. All members were asked to propose items that could be presented on behalf of the committee.

5. **Future Meeting Locations and Agendas – Other Business**

Arrangements for the Bellingham meeting were discussed and the committee agreed to meet on Wednesday August 1st and Thursday August 2nd. The committee will meet on Wednesday afternoon for a tour and then meet again on Thursday for a meeting at the county courthouse from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm. The committee is still considering different touring options. Some ideas included touring the refinery, the incident site, the Kinder Morgan Trans Mountain control center, the swift creek, and the landslide area in Everson. Whether or not the Canadian Pipeline Department will be invited is yet to be determined.

MEETING LOCATION AMENDMENTS (06/15/2007):

- ▶ The next meeting of the citizens committee on pipeline safety will be in Olympia at the UTC on August 2, 2007.
- ▶ The Bellingham meeting has been rescheduled for Wednesday October 3 and Thursday October 4, 2007.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.